

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 18968 300343Z
ACTION FBOE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 /010 W
-----300351Z 027310 /67
R 300315Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4473
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

UNCLAS TOKYO 18968

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFBO, AFSP
SUBJECT: CHANCERY HEATING, AIR CONDITIONING, HUMIDITY PROBLEMS

1. AFTER A NUMBER OF WEEKS' EXPERIENCE WITH THE HEATING OF THE BUILDING, IT HAS BECOME CLEAR THAT WE HAVE SOME SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES IN THE SYSTEM.

A) THE SYSTEM DOES NOT INCLUDE THE OPTION FOR HEATED OR UNHEATED AIR AUTOMATICALLY CONTROLLED BY THERMOSTAT IN ALL AREAS. TEMPERATURES FOR ALL FLOORS ARE CONTROLLED BY ONE THERMOSTAT ON THE FRONT AND ONE ON THE REAR SIDE OF EACH WING OF THE BUILDING; FOR EXAMPLE, FROM THE THIRD FLOOR UP, TWO THERMOSTATS CONTROL TEMPERATURES FOR THE ENTIRE FLOOR. ONCE TEMPERATURES IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA WHERE THE THERMOSTATS ARE LOCATED REACH THE SELECTED TEMPERATURE RANGE, HEAT IS CUT OFF IN THE ENTIRE AREA CONTROLLED BY THAT THERMOSTAT DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE REST OF THE OFFICES MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY HEATED. THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE WHERE THE THERMOSTATS ARE LOCATED IN SMALL OFFICES AND THERE ARE LARGE OPEN SPACES ELSEWHERE IN THE AREA.

B) INDIVIDUAL CONTROLS IN EACH ROOM REGULATE A FAN COIL UNIT AT HIGH, MEDIUM OR LOW SPEED TO CIRCULATE AIR BEING BUT THROUGH THE SYSTEM AT THE TIME. THERE IS NO PROVISION FOR ANY VENTILATION SHOULD OCCUPANTS OF THE ROOM NOT NEED HEATED AIR BEING CIRCULATED THROUGH THE SYSTEM. USE OF CONFERENCE ROOM AND THE AUDITORIUM AREA
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ARE ALSO SOMEWHAT CURTAILED BECAUSE OF THIS PROBLEM. EQUIPMENT IN THE WIRE ROOM AND PROJECTION BOOTHS IS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY INABILITY TO MOVE COOL AIR THROUGH THESE AREAS WHEN HEAT IS REQUIRED ELSEWHERE. THERE HAVE BEEN A COUPLE OF OCCASIONS WHEN THE OUTSIDE TEMPERATURE WAS NOT TOO SEVERE BUT STILL REQUIRED THAT THE BUILDING BE HEATED DURING WHICH IT WAS NECESSARY TO CUT

OFF THE HEAT AND TURN ON THE CHILLER SYSTEM TO PROVIDE RELIEF IN A PARTICULAR SECTION OF THE BUILDING, AN ACTION NEITHER VERY EFFICIENT NOR VERY COST-EFFECTIVE.

C) THERE IS NO HUMIDIFICATION PROCESS IN THE SYSTEM. ANY NATURAL HUMIDITY IN THE FRESH AIR AUTOMATICALLY BROUGHT INTO THE SYSTEM IS LARGELY LOST DURING THE HEATING PROCESS. HUMIDITY READINGS IN THE HEALTH ROOM AREA RANGE AROUND 15 PERCENT WHEN THE HEAT IS ON AND HAVE NEVER GONE ABOVE 30 PERCENT DURING ANY WORKING DAY. THE INCIDENCE OF RASPY DRY THROATS AND DRY SKIN IS VERY HIGH. THE INTENSE DRYNESS IS HAVING DRASTIC EFFECTS ON THE FURNITURE AND FURNISHINGS AS WELL.

2. EMBASSY RECOGNIZES THAT IT WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE MODIFICATION OF THE EXISTING SYSTEM TO CORRECT THESE DEFICIENCIES BUT BELIEVES IT IS ESSENTIAL FROM THE STANDPOINT OF ENERGY CONSERVATION, THE COMFORT AND HEALTH OF THE STAFF, AND GENERAL EFFICIENCY AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS QH ACTION BE TAKEN TO CORRECT IT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. FBO IS REQUESTED TO REVIEW THE PROBLEM AND INITIATE APPROPRIATE ACTION. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS OR GUIDANCE ON THIS MATTER AND IS READY TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY IN RESOLVING THIS PROBLEM. PLEASE ADVISE.

3. FOR ALLISON: REQUEST IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO THAT YOU PROVIDE INPUT TO FBO FROM YOUR PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE SYSTEM./
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TOKYO18968
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760475-1022
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976122/aaaaabhw.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION FBOE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <29 DEC 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHANCERY HEATING, AIR CONDITIONING, HUMIDITY PROBLEMS
TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006